

542,758

Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 JUL 2005

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



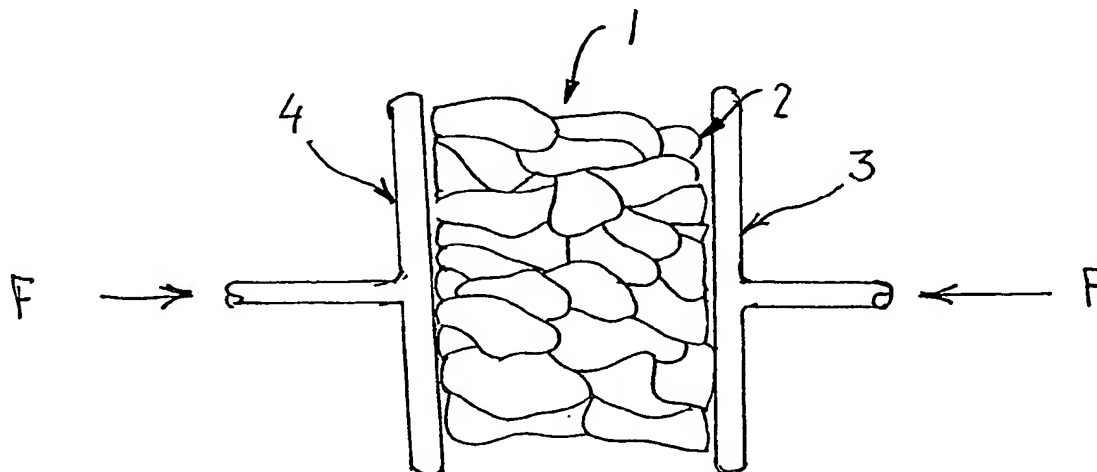
(43) International Publication Date  
12 August 2004 (12.08.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/066742 A1**

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A23B 4/07**
- (21) International Application Number:  
PCT/DK2004/000060
- (22) International Filing Date: 29 January 2004 (29.01.2004)
- (25) Filing Language: Danish
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
PA 2003 00118 29 January 2003 (29.01.2003) DK
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **SFK SYSTEMS A/S** [DK/DK]; Indkildevej 2-4, DK-9210 Aalborg (DK).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **NIELSEN, Bjarne** [DK/DK]; Jættestuen 16, DK-9230 Svenstrup J (DK).
- (74) Agent: **LARSEN & BIRKEHOLM A/S**; Skandinavisk Patentbureau, Banegårdspladsen 1, DK-1570 Copenhagen V (DK).
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— with international search report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A METHOD AND AN APPARATUS FOR THAWING FROZEN MEAT



(57) **Abstract:** The invention comprises a method of thawing meat frozen in meat blocks (1) and comprising an apparatus for initial separation of the meat block (1) before the meat block (1) is placed in a rotating container (7), said meat block (1) being subjected to pressure before being treated in the rotating container (7), said pressure initiating a separation process of the meat block (1) into individual pieces (2). This pressure may be applied over the diagonals of the meat block (1). The invention also comprises an apparatus for performing the method, said apparatus comprising a number of pistons (3, 4, 5, 6) which either cooperate in pairs or cooperate with a firm opposite face for applying pressure to the meat block (1). The faces of the pistons (3, 4, 5, 6) may be plane, or they may comprise elevations or depressions as well as be adapted to act over at least one of the diagonals of the meat block (1).

WO 2004/066742 A1